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BOROUGH OF WREXHAM

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND OF THE

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR

1940.

T. R. EDWARDS, M.D., B.S.(Lond.), D.P.H. (Cant.)

L. A. STROUD, D.P.A., M.R. San. Inst.

The Annual Report for 1940 is hereto presented for your attention. Owing to the continued state of hostilities we have been asked to confine ourselves as last year, to matters of urgency and importance. The Registrar's estimate of population is 28,170 which is a very small increase on the estimate for last year, and is certainly below the actual population if one takes into consideration the number of evacuees and war workers who are employed in the immediate neighbourhood. It is almost certain that the actual population is well over 30,000 but for statistical reasons, we have to accept the figure given to us by the Registrar General.

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GENERAL STATISTICS

Area(acres)		2,916 acres.
Population (mid.1940) (Registrar General's estimate)		28,170
Rateable Value of the Borough (31st March, 1941)		£160,953
Sum presented by a penny rate		£612.
Corporation Houses		1,775
Houses built:-	Corporation	-
	Private	33
	Total	33

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR

Population..... 28,170 (Mid 1940)
(Registrar General's Estimate)

BIRTHS		M.	F.	Total
(Birth Rate).	Live Births (Legitimate)....	225	230	455
	Live Births (Illegitimate)..	14	11	25
	Total	239	241	480
(Figures for calculating Infantile Mortality Rate).....		241	243	484

Birth Rate..... 17 England & Wales..... 14.6
Total No. of Stillbirths..... 21

DEATHS	M.	F.	Total
	215	210	425

Death Rate..... 15.1 Adjusted Death Rate..... 15.2
Comparability Factor..... 1.01 England & Wales..... 14.3

Number of women dying in or in consequence of childbirth:-

1.	From Sepsis.....	1
2.	From Other Causes.....	-
	Total	1

Deaths of Infants under on year of age per 1,000 births:-

	Male	Female	Total.
Legitimate.....	32	29	61
Illegitimate.....	1	-	1
Total	33	29	62

INFANTILE MORTALITY RATE

Legitimate.....	132.9	
Illegitimate.....	40.0	
Total	128.1	(England & Wales.. 55.0)

The figures for Infantile Mortality show a very large increase over the figures for 1939. The illegitimate rate is less by 20, but the legitimate rate is more than double and the total rate is also more than double that of the previous year and is well above that for England and Wales.

The Infantile Mortality Rate for the year was the subject of a lengthy report by me to the Health Committee and this showed that 28 deaths occurred in the first quarter, 11 in the second, 8 in the third and 15 in the fourth quarter.

Of the 28 deaths in the first quarter, 12 were due to pulmonary conditions and 9 to premature birth. In the second quarter, of the 11 deaths, 5 were due to pulmonary conditions and 2 to premature birth. In the third quarter there were no pulmonary deaths but 3 were due to premature birth. In the fourth quarter there were 6 deaths due to pulmonary conditions and 3 to premature birth. There were also 2 C.S.M. deaths during the year in children under one year. There were only 3 deaths from marasmus.

In my report to the M. & C. W. Committee, it was pointed out that taking the year as a whole the great majority of the babies who had died had not previously attended the Baby Clinic and that the mother

also had not previously attended the Ante-Natal Clinic. It is also pointed out that in view of the increasing attendance at the Ante-Natal Clinic, it was important to note how few of the babies whose mothers had attended the Ante-natal Clinic were included in the figures of deaths and that this illustrated the importance of attendance at the Ante-natal Clinic even though in some quarters, there was still a definite prejudice against attending.

During the year 45 deaths of children under one year occurred in the various hospitals and nursing homes but of these only 24 were in respect of resident babies.

27 neo-natal deaths occurred during the year.

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CANCER DEATHS

There were 20 male and 24 female deaths during the year, making a total of 44.

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NOTIFIABLE DISEASE

During the year, the following cases were notified:-

Diseases	Total Cases Notified	Total Deaths
Small Pox.....	-	-
Scarlet Fever.....	61	-
Diphtheria.....	111	5
Pneumonia.....	130	42
Puerperal Pyrexia.....	5	1
Erysipelas.....	2	-
Cerebro-spinal Fever....	64 (12 non-civilian)	4
Encephalitis Lethargica.	1	1
Enteric Fever (Paratyphoid)	4	-
TOTALS	1,075	56

TUBERCULOSIS CASES NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR, 1941

NEW CASES				DEATHS			
Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
24	20	2	6	5	5	-	-
44		8		10		-	

DIPHTHERIA

The number of cases of Diphtheria notified during the year was 111 as compared with 69 for 1939. The number of deaths was 5 as compared with 7 in 1939.

IMMUNISATION

During the year the following cases were dealt with:-

Schick Test

Positive..... -
Negative..... -

Dick Test

Positive..... -
Negative..... 1

Immunisations

No. completed from last year..... -
No. completed during the year..... 35
No. uncompleted at end of year..... 13

SCARLET FEVER

The number of cases of Scarlet Fever notified during the year was 61 as compared with 94 in 1939. There were no deaths during the year.

PNEUMONIA

The number of cases of Pneumonia notified during the year was 130 as compared with 50 in 1939. There were 42 deaths during the year as compared with 17 in 1939.

OPTHALMIA NEONATORUM

There were 3 cases notified during the year.

SMALLPOX

There were no cases of smallpox notified during the year.

VACCINATION - STATISTICS FOR THE WREXHAM AREA

Total Births	725	
Successfully vaccinated	99	
Insusceptible	-	
No. had Smallpox	-	
Conscientious Objectors	408	(56.3%)
Died unvaccinated	43	
Postponed by medical certificate	51	
Removed	101	
Unaccounted for	23	

ENTERIC FEVER

There were 4 cases of Enteric Fever notified during the year.

PUERPERAL PYREXIA

During the year there were 5 cases notified as compared with 8 in 1939. There was 1 death during the year.

CEREBRO-SPINAL FEVER

Reference was made in my last Annual Report to the outbreak of Cerebro-spinal Meningitis which commenced in November, 1939. During 1940, the disease was present throughout the year, the total number of Borough cases, being 64, though there were intervals of comparative freedom such as between March 23rd and April 11th; April 14th to 21st; April 25th to May 2nd; and one prolonged interval of freedom from September 10th until October 30th. A few cases were admitted in January, but as far as the Borough is concerned most of the cases were admitted from January 28th until March 17th. For the rest of the year following this period cases came in at regular intervals with no marked exacerbation.

Of the total cases, 12 were non-civilian, but none of these died. During the year there were 4 deaths. The most acute cases occurred in February and March.

Of the total cases, 19 were admitted from the various hospitals in the Borough and these included 6 cases from outside the Borough which had been admitted to the local hospitals before coming to our Hospital.

The epidemic was discussed in the Health Committee and it was suggested in these deliberations that the infection was brought by the Military Authorities and that the various billets in the town occupied by the military were a potent source of infection. The matter was again discussed when Borough representatives went as a deputation to the Barracks to confer with the Military Authorities. Following this conference it was arranged th that the Medical Officer in the Barracks and myself should visit the billets and we did so. During our visits we noticed the great care taken by the Medical Dept. of the Army to conform with the regulations as to adequate spacing between beds and the provision of ventilation.

The epidemic up to May, 1940 was the subject of a special Report presented jointly to the Borough and the Rural District

Councils. The experience during the year following the publication of this report supported the conclusions already published especially with reference to the successful results of modern chemical therapy, namely the use of a drug known as M.& B. 693 or sulphapyridine.

Some of the cases from the Borough which were admitted to the Fever Hospital were of an extremely acute type and the effect of the drug was almost miraculous in causing a striking subsidence of symptoms and a quick commencement of convalescence.

With very few exceptions there were no marked complications following discharge from Hospital though in one case, a child of six months, this infection was followed by a weakness of the neck muscles which required medical attention in 1941.. In any epidemic such as this, it is only natural that there should be difficulties in diagnosis, and it is for this reason that certain cases were admitted to the Fever Hospital from the Borough (as well as from outside the Borough) which did not turn out to be Cerebro-spinal Meningitis, and unfortunately some of these cases died.

During the epidemic which occurred towards the end of the Great War 1914 - 18, the mortality from this disease was extremely high, but the present mortality rate has been brought down to approximately 10 per cent.

With reference to Prevention, this was discussed in my Report and there is very little I can add. Emphasis was laid on the fact that as yet we have no facilities for successful immunisation against the disease so that the methods of prevention are more of a personal character, such as the avoidance of over-crowding conditions such as those found in cinemas, congregations and in transport vehicles. At the same time, emphasis should be laid on the necessity for adequate ventilation especially during winter months when lighting restrictions are so necessary. It must be remembered that it is diffucult to arrange adequate ventilation with an appropriate "black-out".

I need hardly state that during an epidemic such as the one we have been through, we have had every support from the Medical Practitioners, from the Military Authorities, and more especially from Dr. Wade, Medical Member of the Welsh Board of Health and Dr. Robinson, Bacteriologist from the Conway Laboratory.

We have also received assistance from Dr. Ernest Jones, Bacteriologist of the Wellington Laboratory who was asked to visit the Hospital by the Military Authorities.

The work of Dr. Robinson and Dr. Ernest Jones indicated that the throat and nose of C.S.F. patients were rendered sterile following the use of sulphapyridine. This sterilising effect of sulphapyridine has been carried out in the case of carriers who have been admitted to the Fever Hospital but naturally owing to toxicity of the drug cannot be used as a routine procedure for treating contacts.

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FEVER HOSPITAL STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1940

	BOROUGH CASES
Remaining in Hospital, December, 1939	
Scarlet Fever	11
Diphtheria	6
C.S.F	2
Total	19
Admitted during the year 1940	
Scarlet Fever	46
Diphtheria	106
Paratyphoid	3
C.S.F	64
Obs. C.S.F	10
Others	7
Total	236
Discharged during the year 1940	
Scarlet Fever	53
Diphtheria	101
Paratyphoid	3
C.S.F	61
Obs. C.S.F	10
Others	3
Total	231
Deaths in Hospital during 1940	
Diphtheria	4
C.S.F	4
Others	4
Total	12
Remaining in Hospital, December, 1940	
Scarlot Fever	4
Diphtheria	7
C.S.F.,,,	1
Total	12

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MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE

No. of mothers with babies attending Centre	915
Total attendance of mothers with babies	8,137
Average sessional attendance (per baby)	8.5
Average sessional attendance	80.5
No. of medical consultations	1,006
Ante-natal cases	175
Ante-natal attendances	613
Post-natal cases	20
Post-natal attendances	25

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ORTHOPAEDIC TREATMENT

The following table shows the number of children under 5 years, who were treated at the Orthopaedic Clinic during the year.

Congenital Deformities	11
Erb's Palsy	3
Flat Foot	5
Hallux valgus	1
Knock-knees	12
Poliomyelitis	1
Rickets	2
Postural Defects	1
Spastic hemiplegia	2
Spastic paraplegia	1
Torticollis	3
Others	8
Total	50

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STAFF

As far as the Public Health Department is concerned the only changes in staff are as follows:-

(a) Dr. Sheila Hines was appointed to assist me in M. & C. W. and Ante-natal work in place of Dr. Katharine Drinkwater.

(b) Early in the year, Nurse A. Quick commenced her duties as School Nurse.

(c). There have been certain clerical changes in the Sanitary Inspector's Staff owing to the exigencies of war service.

(d). Two new Temporary Sanitary Inspectors were appointed, Mr. H. Deamer and Mr. N. Brunskill.

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SPECIAL REPORTS

During the year, the following special reports were submitted:-

1. The Incidence of Cerebro-spinal Meningitis in the Wrexham Area.

2. Infantile Mortality.

Reference has already been made to these two reports.

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AMBULANCE FACILITIES

(a) INFECTIOUS CASES - Motor ambulance attached to the Wrexham Fever Hospital.

(b) NON-INFECTIOUS AND ACCIDENT CASES - Motor Ambulances attached to the St. St. John Ambulance Association - Wrexham Branch.

The following report has been received from the Honorary Secretary of the Local Branch of the St. John Ambulance Association.

Number of cases carried.....	1,742	Mileage..	14,578
Number of accidents (road).....	98	Mileage..	604
Total Cases.....	1,840	Mileage..	15,182
Total number of cases where First Aid was rendered.....			287
Public functions attended.....			337
Attendances at functions number.....			610
Total hours of duty given voluntarily by men..... (excluding A.R.P. duties)			11,881

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WATER SUPPLIES

During the year one sample of water was taken by Dr. Robinson of the Public Health Laboratory, Conway and was found to be excellent from a bacteriological point of view. This sample os water was taken in reference to an outbreak of gastro intestinal troubles which occurred amonst workmen of an industrial concern. This outbreak affected a large number of workmen some of whom were living in the Borough of Wrexham. A large amount of chemical and bacteriological investigations was carried out by Dr. Robinson in conjunction with Professor Roberts, of Liverpool University in connection with this outbreak, and we were also helped in our investigations by Dr. Wade and other responsible officials of the Welsh Board of Health. The only incriminating cause was the presence of zinc in minute quantities in the water and there was a total absence of any bacteriological pollution, and this was to be expected seeing that persons drinking the affected water were affected even if the water had been boiled and this in itself would exclude any bacteriological infection.

Another point of interest was the fact that during this outbreak, extensive main laying work was carried out in the Borough by the Water Company and it is the experience of other Authorities that when such main laying work is done there is some interference with the purity of the water supply unless exceptional methods are taken to

effect purification by a portable chlorinating plant which however was not used during the alterations in the Borough. At one time it was thought that this would affect the water in the industrial concern causing the symptoms referred to above but when one discovered that zinc was present one had to look for some local cause and not one situated so far away as the Borough.

During the investigations we were greatly helped by the Officals and Staff of the Water Company and one regrets that the Secretary-Manager, Mr. Davies died so suddenly when one was expecting many years of useful service.

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PATHOLOGICAL WORK

During the year, a Public Health Laboratory was instituted at Conway under the administration of Dr. Robinson and his services were used as far as possible. A large amount of his work dealt with pathological material from the Fever Hospital.

The Clinical Research Association is being used for chemical examination of water supplies.

Milk samples are sent to Bangor University and the Royal Infirmary, Chester.

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Annual Report of the

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

for the year 1940.

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee
Borough of Wrexham.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my Fourth Annual Report upon the work performed by your Sanitary Inspectors in connection with the Sanitary and Housing Administration, and the supervision of food supplies within the Borough, during the year 1940.

The Report has been somewhat curtailed but gives a comprehensive survey of the work accomplished during the year under review. In addition certain work has been performed in connection with Civil Defence.

The only changes in the personnel of the Staff was the departure of Messrs. B. Jones, Sanitary Inspector, and Mr. H. Roberts, clerk, for Military Service, and the appointment,

in a temporary capacity, of Messrs. L. N. Brunskill and H. Deamer, Sanitary Inspectors, and Miss M. Parry, Clerk, in their stead.

I would again acknowledge the constant help and consideration I have received from the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee, and my thanks are also due to Dr. T. P. Edwards for his kindness and help, and to my Staff for their willing co-operation throughout the year.

I am,
Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

L. A. STROUD, D.P.A., M.R.San. Inst.,

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

GENERAL SANITARY ADMINISTRATION

GENERAL SUMMARY

Total Inspections made during the year.....	14,315
Number of complaints received.....	184
Preliminary Notices served.....	431
Preliminary Notices complied with.....	257
Statutory Notices served.....	58
Statutory Notices complied with.....	34
Total Number of Letters received by the Dept.....	575
Total Number of Letters despatched by the Dept...	720
Interviews with Builders, Owners and Agents.....	530

PREMISES AND OCCUPATIONS WHICH CAN BE CONTROLLED BY BYE-LAWS AND REGULATIONS.

(a) COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

At the beginning of the year there were four common Lodging Houses affording accommodation for 71 persons in 20 rooms, including one house used for accommodating married couples. During the year application for registration in respect of one house was refused owing to the dilapidated condition of the premises, and to its unsuitability for accommodating lodgers.

Applications have been received for the registration of three premises, and consideration has been deferred pending the execution of certain works of improvement.

The premises were kept under close supervision and during the year, 185 inspections were made for this purpose. Confirmation of revised bye-laws for controlling Common Lodging Houses within the Borough has unavoidably been held over until the cessation of hostilities.

(b) HOUSES LET IN LODGINGS

Very few premises within the Borough are used as houses let-in-lodgings.

(c) CELLAR DWELLINGS

There are no cellar dwellings in the Borough used for human habitation.

(d) MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

Twenty-four visits were made in respect of camping with caravans and tents in various parts of the Borough, and in each case the Owner of the ground was persuaded to cease allowing it to be used as an unlicensed camping site for periods in excess of the statutory limitation. It was not found necessary to institute legal proceedings.

Few complaints were received regarding moveable dwellings, and caravans connected with amusement fairs were inspected as occasion arose.

(e) OFFENSIVE TRADES

There were 24 trades legally defined as "Offensive Trades" carried on within the Borough, in respect of which 54 inspections were made and 9 notices to cleanse, abate nuisance or carry out improvements were made:

Briefly summarised, the trades are:-

(a) 1 gut scraper
(b) 2 tripe dressers
(c) 2 leather dressers
(d) 1 tanner
(e) 2 rag and bone dealers
(f) 16 fish fryers.

Under the provisions of the Public Health Act, 1936, the Order of 1911 declaring the trade of Fish Frying to be an Offensive Trade within the Borough of Wrexham, ceased to have effect from 1st October, 1940.

(f) SLAUGHTERHOUSES (Private)

Atth At the commencement of the year there were five private Slaughterhouses in existence, but applications for the renewal of licenses in respect of 2 of these premises were refused by the Corporation, owing to their unsuitability as Slaughter Houses. In one case the Owners appealed to the Court against the decision of the Corporation, but afterwards withdrew the Appeal. Since the introduction of the Government Meat and Livestock Scheme in January, 1940 slaughtering has been discontinued at the remaining three private slaughterhouses which are being retained for use in the event of emergency.

(g) SLAUGHTERHOUSES (Municipal Abattoir)

During the year 1940 the Municipal Abattoir has worked in a greater capacity than at any other time since its erection in 1934/5 being used as a centre under the Government Meat and Livestock Scheme, for the slaughtering of animals for a population of some 110,000 persons in the Borough and areas adjacent thereto. Details of the animals slaughtered and inspected during the year are given in the Table contained later in this report.

Improvements were effected to the Cooling Hall roof during the year so as to provide adequate ventilation.

Proposals were made by the Council for the erection of a Meat Distribution Room with Offices and Refrigerators. Deputations met the Chairman of the Welsh Board of Health and Ministry of Food Officials, and subsequently the Welsh Board of Health gave loan consent in respect of the Distribution Room

and Offices. This extension will relieve the congested conditions which have been experienced in connection with the distribution of meat. During certain periods of the year congestion is experienced in connection with the slaughtering of cattle and sheep, proving the desirability of a separate sheep slaughter hall.

MUNICIPAL ABATTOIR TRADING ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st Mar 31st MARCH, 1940.

This Account shows a deficit of £1,287, 15. 6d. The cost of additional equipment necessary for the operation of the Government Meat and Livestock Scheme is included.

(h) PLACES WHERE ANIMALS ARE KEPT

35 Inspections were made during the year in connection with the keeping of swine and other animals. Little nuisance was experienced and few complaints received.

HOUSE DRAINAGE AND SANITATION

A total of 318 visits were made in supervising improvements and reconstruction work in connection with the drainage systems of dwelling-houses and other buildings. The drains of 16 premises were reconstructed during the year in addition to many other minor amendments of drainage systems and the Department supervised the laying of 285 feet of stoneware drain and applied 38 hydraulic tests and 18 smoke tests to drains, soil and ventilating pipes.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION AND SMOKE ABATEMENT

Number of complaints of smoke nuisances received	-	January to June, 1940 only
Number of observations made of industrial chimneys ..	12	
Number of nuisances observed	1	
Number of Notices served.....	-	
Numberof visits to works and interview with Engineers and Owners.....	5	
Approximate number of industrial chimneys in the Borough.....	24	

At the special request of the Ministry of Home Security (Smoke Production Division) measures for the prevention of atmospheric pollution by smoke were suspended in the national interests from June, 1940.

Byelaws to regulate the emission of industrial smoke were submitted to the Ministry of Health for approval but have been deferred until the cessation of hostilities.

RAG FLOCK ACTS, 1911 & 1928

There are no premises at which rag flock is manufactured within the Borough, but there are firms who use rag flock in upholstery and furniture manufacture. Three samples of rag flock were submitted for analysis during the year, and were certified to contain 8 parts of soluble chlorine and complied with the standard laid down in the Rag Flock Regulations, 1912.

RIVER POLLUTION.

During the year visits were made from time to time to the various points of the streams within the Borough at which trade effluents are discharged but no complaints were received and no nuisances were observed in this respect.

DISINFECTION

During the year investigations were made into the following notifiable diseases:-

Scarlet Fever - 61. Diphtheria - 111. C.S.F. - 52.

Other Infections Disease - 4.

712 rooms were disinfected by fumigation and formalin spraying. 812 articles of bedding and clothing were treated by steam disinfection. 77 library and other books were disinfected or destroyed following cases of infectious disease.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS

Complaints were received and 53 inspections were made in connection with the infestation of dwelling houses by bed bugs. Disinfestation work was carried out by the Department at 9 Corporation houses and 1 privately owned house, fumigation being by means of a sulphur preparation.

Inspection was made of all Corporation houses which became vacant during the year for detecting bug infestation.

SANITARY CONDITIONS OF PLACES OF ENTERTAINMENT

No complaints were received regarding the sanitary condition of places of entertainment which on the whole are kept in a satisfactory condition.

SHOPS ACTS, 1912 to 1937

142 shops were inspected under Section 10 of the Shops Act 1934 which relates to the provision in every shop in which persons are employed of suitable means of ventilation, lighting, temperature, sanitary accommodation, washing facilities and facilities for taking meals. In seven cases notices were served requiring the provision of additional sanitary accommodation, in 2 cases for provision of adequate washing facilities, and in 1 case for provision of adequate facilities for taking meals. In addition 15 improvements were effected in connection with the provision of facilities for washing, lighting and heating and for taking of meals, following verbal notice.

SANITARY CONDITIONS OF OFFICES

Sanitary accommodation and facilities for washing in offices are investigated as occasion arises. No complaints were received during the year.

HOUSING ACT, 1936

Following instructions issued by the Ministry of Health requesting Local Authorities to cease activities in connection with Clearance and Demolition Order procedure, no action was taken in this respect during the year. A few houses, already the subject of confirmed Clearance Orders, were demolished by the Owners.

The work of reconditioning working-class houses, however, has continued during the year in cases where complaint has been received, 494 houses having been made fit in consequence of Informal action by the Department. 34 Statutory Notices requiring repairs were served during the year.

SUPERVISION OF FOOD SUPPLIES

MILK AND DAIRIES. The number of persons registered as wholesale purveyors and producers of milk within the Borough is 34, and as retail purveyors 93, making a total of 127. There are 20 registered cow-keepers with approximately 316 cows, also 60 dairies and milkshops.

Eleven Dealers' Licences and one Supplementary Licence were issued under the provisions of the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF DESIGNATED AND NON-DESIGNATED MILK

During 1940 there were 148 samples of milk submitted by this Department for bacteriological examination as compared with 122 in 1939 including samples of milk sold under the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936. Of these, 50 samples were of milk produced within the Borough, and 25 samples were of Pasteurised milk supplied to Elementary School children.

An analysis of the results shows that of the total samples taken 6.08% were reported to be unsatisfactory as compared with 9.0% in 1939, and as regards designated milks 6.9% were reported to be unsatisfactory as compared with 8.6% in 1939.

Summarised, the results were as follows:-

Samples Taken	Results
14 - Tuberculin Tested Milk.	14 complied with the prescribed conditions.
53 - Accredited Milk	52 complied with the prescribed conditions. 1 did not comply.
4 - Sterilised Milk.	4 were reported to be satisfactory.
59 - Pasteurised Milk.	51 complied with the prescribed conditions. 8 did not comply.
18 - Non-designated Raw Milk.	18 complied with the prescribed conditions.

Four samples of Pasteurised Milk were submitted to the Phosphatase Test and gave satisfactory results.

Biological Testing of Milk for the presence of Living Tubercle Bacilli.

Forty-four samples of designated and non-designated milks were submitted for biological testing as compared with 48 in 1939. Eight of the samples, or 18.2%, all of which were produced by "Accredited" herds, gave positive results and affected cows were reported to have been ultimately eliminated from the respective herds by the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, as a result of the preliminary action of this Department.

MANUFACTURE AND SALE OF ICE CREAM

There are 29 registered premises under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, at which ice-cream is manufactured or sold. The premises have all been inspected and found to be in a satisfactory condition.

Particular attention was given to the manufacture of ice-cream and a total of 22 samples were submitted to the Dairy Bacteriologist of Bangor University for bacteriological examination and quality tests, for advisory purposes by the Department. These samples represented the products of both manufacturers on a large scale whose principal business is the manufacture and sale of ice-cream and local manufacturers who deal in this commodity in a lesser degree and in many cases as subsidiary to their principal business.

There is no official bacteriological standard for Ice-cream. The standard adopted provides that the Bacterial Count shall not exceed 100,000 bacteria per Mil. and B. Coli absent in 1/100th Mil., this being a standard, which, in the case of an efficiently pasteurised ice-cream mix, there should be no difficulty in keeping within, particularly at the low storage temperature employed. Nine of the samples were adversely reported upon by reason of excessive bacterial count, and the presence of Bacillus Coli. All these were followed by letters of warning, offers of advice and the procuring of further samples.

The butter-fat content of the 22 samples ranged from 1.5% to 12.3% giving an giving an average content of 5.5%.

Letters were sent to four manufacturers drawing attention to the particularly low butter-fat content of ice-cream samples procured from them, and further samples showed marked improvement.

MEAT INSPECTION

100% of the animals slaughtered at the Municipal Abattoir were inspected, and in addition home killed meat from other towns, sent to the Abattoir for distribution. The total number of animals inspected was 70,017 of which 10.140 or 14.5% were found to be abnormal.

UNSOUND FOOD Seized and Voluntarily surrendered

Total amount of Meat and other foods deemed to be unfit for human consumption amounted to:- 76 tons, 6 cwts. 2 qrs. 5 lbs.

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

	CATTLE Excldg Cows	COWS	CALVES	SHEEP & LAMBS.	PIGS.
	Abatt.	Abatt.	Abatt.	Abatt.	Abatt.
Number Slaughtered	2,512	1,291	471	51,623	13,733
Number Inspected	2,512	1,525	476	51,623	13,881
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS:-					
Whole carcases condemned.	1	32	13	269	89
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	198	659	6	5,700	760
Percentage of the number inspected affected with diseases other than Tuberculosis.	7.9%	53.5%	4.0%	11.5%	6.2%
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY:-					
Whole carcases condemned.	3	74	-	-	40
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	69	646	-	-	1,581
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	2.8%	55.7%	-	-	11.8%

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933

During the year one new licence was granted and at December 31st, 1941, twenty-eight slaughtering licences issued by the Corporation were in force.

The provisions of the Act have been well observed.

PUBLIC HEALTH (MEAT)REGULATIONS, 1924

Instances of failure to take reasonable precautions to protect meat during transit or exposure for sale in open shop windows from contamination by the blowing of dirt and dust were dealt with by informal action.

RETAIL MARKETS

139 inspections were made to Food Stalls at which meat and other articles of food for human consumption are sold in the Butchers', General and Vegetable General retail markets, and the conditions were found to be on the whole satisfactory.

MANUFACTURE AND SALE OF PRESERVED FOOD

Under the provisions of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, there are 22 premises now on the Register for use for the preparation or manufacture of sausages or potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food

intended for sale.

237 inspections of registered premises were made during the year.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938

The provisions of this Act relating to the Adulteration of Food and Drugs is administered within the Borough partly by the Corporation and partly by the Denbighshire County Council. The proportion of samples per 1,000 of the population submitted by both Authorities during 1940 was 4.1.

A total of 44 samples were submitted to the Public Analyst by the Corporation for chemical analysis. Of these samples, 35 were certified to be genuine and free from preservative, colouring matter and excessive amounts of extraneous dirt.

The articles sampled were as follows:-

Milk - 33	Margarine - 3.
Butter - 4	Ground almonds - 1.
Lard - 1	White Pepper - 1.
Pork Sausage - 1.	

The average composition of the milk samples was fat 3.92% and solids-not-fat 8.64%.

Legal proceedings were instituted against the vendor of a sample of milk which upon analysis was found to be 28% deficient of fat, and a conviction was secured.

Five samples showed slight deficiencies in solids-not-fat but the Hortvet freezing-point test showed no evidence of added water.

The vendor of one sample of milk slightly deficient was warned and further samples proved to be satisfactory.

A sample of pork sausage was found to contain sulphur dioxide within the prescribed limit of the Public Health (Preservatives in Food) Regulations, but without declaration. The vendor was warned.

An informal sample of butter, the subject of a complaint, was found upon analysis to consist of margarine 100%. Further samples proved to be genuine.

I am indebted to Mr. D. Wynne Griffiths, Inspector of Weights and Measures for information of the operation of the Act by the County Council which shows that the number of samples taken within the Borough during 1940 was 2.8 per thousand of the population.

Number of samples procured - 73
Genuine - 62 Substandard - 11

Twenty-four samples of milk were also tested informally. In two instances vendors were prosecuted and convicted.

FACTORIES AND WORKPLACES

312 Inspections were made of Factories and Workplaces including Bakehouses.

Conditions were found to be satisfactory at most premises.

No action was taken regarding outworkers carrying on work in unwholesome premises.

INCREASE OF RENT AND MORTGAGE RESTRICTIONS ACTS

One application was received for a Certificate under these Acts, but the house was rendered fit for human habitation before the Certificate was granted.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION ACT, 1919

15 notifications of Rat and Mice Infestation made during the year, received the attention of this Department. A total of 239 visits were made in respect of Rat infestation in addition to the work of the outdoor assistant. Sewers were baited with barium-carbonate baits and a number of infested premises were treated by "Moro" fumigation and in many instances advice was given as to the most suitable poisons and methods to be used for destroying Rats and Mice. In no instance was it found necessary to serve Statutory Notices under the Act.

WORK CARRIED OUT BY THE CORPORATION IN DEFAULT OF PROPERTY OWNERS.

In no case was it necessary to execute work in default of owners.

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

The following legal proceedings were instituted during the year.

Proceedings for a contravention of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, Section 3. Milk deficient - 28% deficient of fat. Defendant was convicted and fined £2. 0. 0d. and £1. 19. 0d. costs.

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